

before joining the local Sanger newspaper as editor. He remained as editor for the Sanger Herald until his retirement in 2019. Dick also served his country in the U.S. Army Security Agency and the U.S. Navy Reserve in Dinuba. He enjoyed spending time with fellow veterans at the Sanger Post 7168 Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Sanger Post 98 AMVETS.

Renowned for his volunteer work and community involvement, Dick's legacy will not soon be forgotten. He organized an annual golf tournament fundraiser as a Golden Valley Girl Scout Council Board Member, conducted career preparation seminars for Workforce Connection, and served as a Family Self Sufficiency Board Member to help struggling families achieve economic independence. Dick was involved in several other organizations serving the Sanger and Fresno area communities: the Kiwanis Club of Dinuba, the Downtown Kiwanis Club of Fresno, the Rotary Club of the Fresno Airport, the Rotary Club in Sanger, the Sanger Unified School District Classified Employees Personnel Commission, the Sanger High School Athletic Hall of Fame Committee, the Sanger Veterans Parade Committee, and the Fresno Radio Advisory Committee.

Dick was awarded several recognitions during his lifetime including the American Legion Medal for Character, the Sanger Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame, the Gold Seal award for community service presented by the Sanger Chamber of Commerce, and several journalism awards. Beloved by the Sanger community, Dick was also honored as the Grand Marshal for both the Sanger Veterans Parade and Sanger Christmas Parade in 2019.

Dick is survived by his wife Nadine; their children Mark, Cassandra and her husband Jack, and Christopher and his wife Petra; and stepson Michael and his wife Jessica. Dick is also survived by nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of Mr. Richard "Dick" Franklin Sheppard. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

#### CHIEF GREEN 1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ANTHONY G. BROWN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 23, 2021*

Mr. BROWN. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of the one-year anniversary of Chief Tiffany Green, Chief of Prince George's County Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department. In November 2018, County Executive Angela Alsobrooks made history as the first African American woman elected to lead a county government in Maryland. Upon Prince George's County's Fire Chief Benjamin Barksdale's announced retirement, County Executive Alsobrooks appointed Chief Green who became the First African American Woman to lead a fire department in the history of the State of Maryland and only the 9th African American Woman to hold the position of fire chief in the United States of America. She inherited a department with a call volume of 152,000, a total of 638 pieces of apparatus

(including command and support vehicles) with 266 specifically outfitted for fire suppression, rescue, or emergency transport.

Tiffany D. Green, a native Prince Georgian, began her career as a firefighter with the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department in March of 1999, after serving as a volunteer for the Oxon Hill Volunteer Fire Department for four years. As an almost 26-year fire services veteran, Tiffany holds dual bachelor's degrees in Public Safety and Biology and a master's degree in Emergency and Disaster Management. Climbing up the ranks, she has served in the following capacities prior to her role as a Command Staff member: Firefighter, Paramedic, Station Commander, Executive Assistant to the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Public Safety, Chief of Staff for the Director of Homeland Security, Special Events Coordinator and Stadium Commander for Fed Ex field.

As Deputy Fire Chief she was responsible for Human Resources, Fiscal Affairs, Information Management, Risk Management and the Office of Service Excellence, Accreditation & Research. As Director of the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Training and Leadership Academy, her primary responsibilities were training and professional development for over 900 sworn personnel and 1,200 volunteer members of the department. She also managed the High School Fire Science (Cadet) Program, a program for high school students who are interested in working in the Fire Services profession.

On January 15, 2020, Chief Green's nomination was unanimously approved following a review of her exemplary over 20 years of service, her impressive record and support from many public safety and government officials.

Chief Green made history as Prince George's County's first woman, first dual fire fighter/paramedic and youngest fire chief. County Executive Alsobrooks, in her nomination, made sure to emphasize Green's wealth of experience and high ranking on each and every promotional exam—the lieutenant's test, the captain's exam, and battalion chief's exam. According to County Executive Alsobrooks, Chief Green is far and away the most qualified person to lead the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department at this time.

According to Chief Green, her decision to serve her community as a volunteer fire fighter "changed the trajectory of [her] life." She recognizes the women whose shoulders she is standing on today. "Pioneers" like Maureen Hennessy, Angela Peden and the late Carla Blue who gave Chief Green their Keys to Success. And, Chief Green has vowed to "lead this department forward, to continue to be accountable, professional and community-centered."

Her leadership of the 1,062 Sworn and 1,500 volunteers has already proven to be a success on a national level. The Congressional Fire Services Institute and National Fallen Firefighters Foundation selected the Prince George's County Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department as the combination fire department recipient of the 2020 Senator Paul S. Sarbanes Fire Service Safety Leadership Award, named in honor of the late former Maryland Senator Paul Sarbanes. The award recognizes fire departments and organizations for leadership in advancing firefighter health and safety, who have developed important

health and safety programs for their personnel that are based on the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives established at the 2004 Tampa Summit.

Congratulations to Chief Green on this momentous occasion, and much appreciation to her husband Alfred, and daughter Talore, for sharing her with Prince Georges County.

#### EFFORTS TO MODERNIZE AND STRENGTHEN MULTIEMPLOYER PENSION PLANS

**HON. SHARICE DAVIDS**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 23, 2021*

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I'd like to thank my colleague, Chairman RICHARD NEAL for his tireless work on the Butch Lewis Emergency Pension Plan Relief Act of 2021 and for providing retirement income security for pension recipients in endangered, critical or critical and declining status multiemployer pension plans.

In Kansas, thousands of retirees currently receive pensions through the Central States Plan and they face a crisis—a severe reduction in retirement income through no fault of their own.

Without the direct relief provided in this legislation, the Central States Pension Fund would have become insolvent in 2026 and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation would have to reduce 360,000 participants' pensions to pennies. This is unacceptable. As Chairman NEAL is all too aware, many of the participants of Central States are frontline workers who have served our country tirelessly and fearlessly in the face of the pandemic.

The present structure of these plans is unsustainable and in need of reform.

Without modernization of these plans and addressing employer liabilities, I am concerned that multiemployer pension plans and their retirees will certainly face similar circumstances in the future and require additional federal funds. This much needed relief to the plans is designed to forestall insolvency leaving important work that must follow. I believe we must seize this opportunity to reform these plans and take insolvency off the table.

I understand the Chairman is committed to working with me to modernize and strengthen multiemployer pension plans with the intent of bringing a reform package to the floor in this Congress. Could the Chairman confirm that is the case?

#### EFFORTS TO MODERNIZE AND STRENGTHEN MULTIEMPLOYER PENSION PLANS

**HON. RICHARD E. NEAL**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 23, 2021*

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, too many workers in this nation reach retirement age without the savings they need. The retirement crisis in America is real and will only worsen unless we make saving easier and do more to encourage workers to begin planning for retirement earlier. And that's why I've committed as the